

(for EPC)

## Claims

1. An alkaline protease having an amino acid sequence wherein one or more amino acid residues selected from those located at (a) position 63, (b) position 89, (c) position 120, (d) positions 63 and 187, (e) position 226, (f) position 296, (g) position 304 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, or at positions corresponding to these positions are the following amino acid residues, respectively:

Position (a): serine,  
Position (b): histidine,  
Position (c): arginine  
Position (d): serine,  
Position (e): tyrosine,  
Position (f): valine, and  
Position (g): serine.

2. An alkaline protease having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or an amino acid sequence having 80% or higher homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein one or more amino acid residues selected from those located at (a) position 63, (b) position 89, (c) position 120, (d) positions 63 and 187, (e) position 226, (f) position 296, (g) position 304 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ No: 1, or at positions corresponding to these positions are the following amino acid residues, respectively:

Position (a): serine,

Position (b): histidine,

Position (c): arginine

Position (d): serine,

Position (e): tyrosine,

Position (f): valine, and

Position (g): serine.

3. A gene encoding the alkaline protease as described in claim 1 or 2.

4. A recombinant vector comprising the gene as described in claim 3.

5. A transformant containing the vector as described in claim 4.

6. The transformant according to claim 5, in which a host is a microorganism.

7. A detergent composition comprising the alkaline protease as recited in claim 1 or 2.